

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) JUNE 20, 1955  
IN REGARD TO THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL.

I voted today for the Defense Appropriations Bill as reported by the Senate Appropriations Committee and as recommended by the President.

This bill would provide for an appropriation of \$3,360,450,850 more than the appropriation for the current year. I did not vote for the higher appropriation because it is my firm belief the country must remain strong economically as well as militarily.

I have heretofore advocated an expanded reserve program for two reasons:

1. More men can be trained for a possible call to military service under the reserve program than could ever be given training in regular service.

2. Several men can be trained in the reserve for the same amount it costs to maintain one man in regular service.

Because of the fact that the Committee Bill would save \$46,000,000 dollars over the version approved by the Senate, and because I believe this money can be used to better advantage in the training of reservists instead of further expansion of the regular forces, I voted for what I believe would provide the strongest military forces most economically.